

The ultimate guide to summertime in Dorset's most popular resort...

# *The* **LYME REGIS** *Experience*

July 2014  
Issue 2

One of the great man-made  
wonders of the world...



LYME BAY  
HOLIDAYS

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**FOLK WEEK:** 8 page pull out on the Lyme Regis Folk Festival 2014



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**Philip Evans**

Managing Director  
01297 446155 | [philip@pemedial.co.uk](mailto:philip@pemedial.co.uk)

**Rob Coombe**

Sales Executive  
01297 446146 | [rob.coombe@pemedial.co.uk](mailto:rob.coombe@pemedial.co.uk)

Editorial by Geoff Baker

Photography by Richard Austin & Francesca Evans

Design by Rob Larcombe, Mark Taylor & Adam Neale

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Welcome to

## The Lyme Regis Experience

**W**ELCOME to the second issue of The Lyme Regis Experience, the holiday publication which gives locals and visitors alike a taste of summer in Dorset's most friendly resort.

Lyme Regis prides itself on offering traditional seaside holidays with bucketfuls of free family entertainment.

In this issue of The Lyme Experience we focus on the town's two major summer attractions - Lyme Regis Lifeboat Week, one of the biggest events of its kind on the south coast, featuring the fantastic Red Arrows, and Lyme Regis Regatta & Carnival, the town's oldest annual festival of fun and laughter in which townsfolk and visitors come together for some traditional Dorset entertainment.

We also preview Lyme's newest and most unusual event - Guitars On The Beach, in which thousands come together to make up Britain's biggest band, led by a rock legend, Deep Purple's lead singer Ian Gillan, for a jam session on the beach.

Features on the resort's many other attractions and all you need to know about eating out in the town's quaint pubs and charming restaurants ensures that The Lyme Regis Experience is a must to get the most out of your visit to our lovely town.



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# Lifeboat Week 2014

You don't want to miss it as it is *without doubt the town's best week* of fun of the year.



IT'S LIFEBOAT Week in Lyme from Saturday July 19th to 26th and you don't want to miss it as it is without doubt the town's best week of fun of the year.

But if you are in the Lyme Lifeboat crew, every week is Lifeboat Week; every day is Lifeboat Week – every hour, every minute, every second of the year is Lifeboat time for the brave men who are always ready to risk their lives saving ours.

It's not like being in the other emergency services, being in the RNLI – you don't get days off and you don't get paid. Instead, the ten men who make up Lyme's volunteer crew are constantly on alert for a 'shout' that can see them drop everything at any time – not just their work but birthdays, family occasions, Christmas, New Year, you name it – to rush out into cold, rough seas, day or night, to save someone in peril.

None of our crew are professionals, they are electricians, a painter and decorator, a student, a pub landlord, a builder, a watersports retailer, a council foreman, and their skipper the harbourmaster, and last year often in hideous conditions they set to sea to save others on 43 occasions.

Few consider the cost when they dial 999 and ask for the Lifeboat when they've been cut off by the tide when walking from Lyme to Charmouth.

Let us spell it out then – it's £1,500 every time, £1,500 in fuel, maintenance and other costs that could often be avoided if those who clamber onto the cliffs to escape the waves stopped to think that if they waited there for a bit, the tide would drop and they could walk on safely.

It is little wonder that in his address at the annual general meeting of the Lyme RNLI Harbourmaster Grahame Forshaw made the not-unreasonable call to visitors which we are repeating here – if you're planning to walk the coast this summer, please buy a tidetable and familiarise yourself with when it will be high tide. Tidetables are sold all over Lyme, you can buy them at the Post Office or at the RNLI shop at The Cobb and they could save you from great embarrassment.

The RNLI shop, also entirely staffed by volunteers, had a turnover last year of £176,300 – another record sum for the tiny kiosk which has set a record every year for the past eight years.

£176,300 sounds a lot, but the shop has to raise it – because despite the many, many generous donations to the RNLI every year at Lifeboat Week, the giving doesn't cover the half of it; £31,300 was raised during Lifeboat Week last year, but the year's shouts cost £64,500.

Add to that the actual cost of running the Lifeboat Station – £85,000 a year –





and the cost of training every volunteer – £1,400 each time – and you'll see why we are saying please dig deep and give this year.

Lyme's boat, an Atlantic 85, can sail at 35 knots and will be launched in storms of Force 6 to 7 in daylight and Force 5 to 6 at night. To put that into perspective, a Force 6 means waves of 9 to 13 ft.

Since the RNLI was founded in 1824, nationally its brave crews have saved 140,000 lives at sea. That's 736 a year, 14 a week, two a day, one life every 12 hours saved by those prepared to risk theirs doing so.

To fund this, all over Britain RNLI stations organise events like Lyme's Lifeboat Week – when everyone lets their hair down.

A full glossy programme of the week's events costs just £1.50 and is on sale in shops all over the town, but here's some of the highlights:

The Welcome Display by the Lyme lifeboat at 1pm on Saturday 19th, which this year will be joined by Exmouth's new Shannon class boat, the first in service in the South West and one of only two in the UK.

The hilarious Bathtub Race the next day at 12.30pm – when local teams compete to race on the most bizarre 'boats' and rafts imaginable – followed by a spectacular display by the RAF Falcons parachute display team, dropping onto the beach at 7pm.

Then there's the Swimming Race from Cobb Gate to The Cobb, for children and adults, from 5pm on Wednesday 23rd, and at 6pm on the Thursday, the return of The Red Arrows – when the RAF acrobatics flight that has pretty much been adopted by the town in the decades they've been coming to Lyme put on a thrilling show for which Lyme Bay provides the perfect backdrop.

There's many, many other events all over the town for Lifeboat Week and they are all listed in the programme, including the famous Yard Of Ale competition outside The Cobb Arms – pop along and raise a very large glass to the brave lads of Lyme, and thank our lucky stars that they are always there for us.

For more information: [www.facebook.com/LymeRegisLifeboatWeek](http://www.facebook.com/LymeRegisLifeboatWeek)

*Sometimes they can have two or three shouts in the same day. During Lifeboat Week 2012 they were called out seven times.*







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# Lyme Regis REGATTA & CARNIVAL 2014

**T**HE world record for the tallest sandcastle is 38 ft 2ins, built in New Jersey last year by Ed Jarrett and 1,500 volunteers, using 1.6 million pounds of sand.

The biggest sandcastle in Britain was built in Weymouth in 2008, using 1,000 tonnes of sand and taking seven days to complete. But it was 'only' three metres tall.

We are pleased to mention this because there is no height restriction on entries in the great Lyme Regis sandcastle competition, one of more than 60 excellent events for Regatta & Carnival Week – August 2nd-10th and absolutely the best week of the year for family fun in the town.

When we grandfathers were kids in Lyme, this was the week that you looked forward to the most, even more than Christmas, as it showcased

Lyme at its very best; illuminated processions of spectacular floats crawling down Broad Street, pram races around the pubs, huge flotillas of boats competing in the Bay and shrieks of laughter every day on the beach.

This year, Lyme's town crier Alan Vian and his team of organisers are set not only to wonderfully follow that glorious tradition, but their plans for Regatta & Carnival 2014 could make it the very best ever.

Fun and laughter are the hallmarks of the seafront-based week and this year the organisers are pulling out all stops so that the town will be awash with it.

Besides the simple but brilliant pavement drawing, crab fishing and sandcastle competitions [and here's a tip for that, use wet

sand] there will be excellent new events like the Park & Slide, which is tipped to be a huge hit with children – sliding down a wet run the entire length of Lister Gardens in a plastic dinghy. Anyone who has ever made a water slide for the children in the garden knows how big a hit that's going to be with kids. We can hear the cry already – 'Again! Again!'

Just as popular is likely to be the Scooter Race up the slope in the gardens. This was introduced just for children last year and it so popular that parents kept on asking if they could have a go too. This year they can and it's well worth attempting to break the record of 13.3 seconds because the fastest uphill scooter will win a week's holiday at great accommodation in nearby Rousdon.

Carnival week this year coincides with a thought-making event, the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War on August 4th. As we all know, there is not a family in Britain that was not tragically-affected by that war and one might think that a carnival is not the way to mark it. But Lyme's organisers have come up with a perfect, poignant way to pay our respects and one which is likely to draw huge crowds.

To commemorate the outbreak of the war, and all of the sad consequences of that, the Government is to ask Britain to turn out all lights at the key hour. Lyme Carnival's tribute will be even more moving – at 10am at Jericho, along the River Lym just beyond Mill Green, more than 500 candles will be lit and floated down the river. The Town Crier will then lead the crowds in procession down to the sea and at 11am, the fateful hour, he will make 'a commemorative cry' at the exact moment that war was declared 100 years ago.

Back on the beach, another 'must-not-miss' is the traditional Treasure Hunt. To prepare this, Alan and his wife Lynne go down at dawn and bury 250 small, prize-denoting squares of cardboard in the sand, which is then levelled-over by the harbourmaster's JCB. When the hunt begins later, children have 20 minutes to find all of the prizes. The sight of 200 children feverishly digging up the beach is wonderful to witness.

Music is the food of Lyme and there's much of it at the Carnival. Among the evening performers this year will be the return – by popular demand





# FUN AND LAUGHTER ALL WEEK AS ORGANISERS PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS

of the amazing Tano Taiko Drummers [www.youtube.com/watch?v=OKKzASmG1ds](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OKKzASmG1ds) and during the break in their performance they will let you have a go. You can also join in with the Uplyme Gospel Choir, who will be singing at the Carnival for the first time.

More music will echo over the seafront at the traditional torchlight procession on Thursday August 7th, when The Walk of Light of hundreds of torch-bearers accompanied by top samba band Street Heat [www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZrK3IGFXTM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZrK3IGFXTM) will

parade through the Langmoor and Lister Gardens to The Cobb.

And on Carnival Night – Saturday August 9th – at the end of the fabulous floats procession one of Lyme's best bands, Brian Street's Delta Tango 7, will be leading the dancing the night away in the Shelters on the seafront – before and after the most spectacular fireworks display that Lyme has ever seen, arranged and choreographed to music from The Cobb by Lyme's Mr Mackerel, boatman Harry May.

All the events will be listed and detailed in the £1

souvenir programme which will be on sale throughout the town in the weeks leading up to Regatta & Carnival Week. All the proceeds from the week go to local good causes and over the past 10 years more than £75,000 has been donated.

But, as organiser Alan Vian says, 'our main aim is to help families enjoy coming to Lyme for their holiday'.

You'll have fun.

[www.lymeregiscarnival.co.uk](http://www.lymeregiscarnival.co.uk)

*Fun and laughter are the hallmarks of the seafront-based week*



## LYME REGIS REGATTA AND CARNIVAL WEEK 2014

**2<sup>nd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

Nine days of activities for all the family  
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Torchlight Procession with Samba  
Thursday 7th August

Carnival Procession followed by Fireworks  
Saturday 9th August

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# LYME LYMPICS

One of Lyme's most fun summer events

*'When the Lympics team say silly, they mean really silly.  
Really, really, really silly.'*

IF YOU ask children who were there to name the most fun event of Lyme's summer calendar of the past two years, the odds are that many will choose the Lyme Lympics.

Frequently misheard as the Lyme Limpets, and thus thought to be some sort of event celebrating the dullness of shellfish, the Lympics are in fact an eccentric fiesta of laughter-filled irreverence that hark back to the days before serious souls removed the word 'fun' from the national lexicon.

Consequently if you judge by the giggles and hilarity, the Lympics are possibly the No 1 event for families.

The Lympics concept is simple – silly games on the beach by the Royal Standard Inn that everybody can play entirely for free – and the winners go home with much-prized Lympic gold medals. Among the event's fans are BBC DJ Chris Evans and Prime Minister David Cameron, who sent organisers a good luck letter from Downing Street.

When the Lympics team say silly, they mean really silly. Really, really, really silly.

For instance – the Eight-Legged Race; in which teams of four adults [or teams of three for the children's version] attach their feet to long planks and then attempt to 'run' to the finishing line. Everybody always falls over [don't worry, it's on the sand and nobody has ever been hurt] again and again and again.

Or then there's the Partner Jousting, in which a child is put on his or her Dad's shoulders and is given a long plastic stick. The object of the game is for the pair to run 50 yards across the sand, hook onto the stick one of several hoops strung onto a line, and then run back. The fun bit is that Dad is blindfolded and the child has to steer him by shouting directions.

There's also good, old-fashioned Wheelbarrow Races, Tossing the



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Caber, Egg Catch [with raw eggs] and for this year's event – Thursday August 14th – organisers are aiming to introduce Paper Plate Discus Throwing and Knob Golf.

Before you panic, madam, Knob Golf is nothing like that. It's a game of great skill to see who can knock an intact Dorset Knob biscuit the longest distance using a big-headed golf Driver. Naturally, most entrants will smash the Knob to bits.

Binocular Football is another game that they want to introduce this year – if the entirely-unfunded organisers can find the cash to buy 10 pairs of plastic binoculars. If they can, Binocular Football is set to become a great laugh – teams of five play football with toy binoculars strapped to their heads, but the binoculars are the wrong way around, so that everything they see is 'miles away'. In trials, the results have been hilarious as it is near-impossible to kick the ball.

Check out this link for a preview of the game that is a huge hit in Japan: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHSZ26-YJck>

The Lympics are the brain-child of the celebrated Lyme artist Hugh Dunford Wood. While studying at Oxford some centuries ago, Hugh was a member of the Dangerous Sports Club and when, in 2012, Lyme was looking for a family attraction to rival the Olympics proper, which were held in nearby Weymouth, his nimble and eccentric mind created the town's much more fun Games.

True, some of the early games were not a huge draw – for instance the stinging nettle-eating; which only had three entrants, including a visitor from Yorkshire who minutes before the munching began asked the organisers if it mattered that he was allergic to stinging nettles. But, encouraged by the organisers to have a pint of Scrumpy with his nettles, he won!

Undaunted, organisers are aiming to stage the nettle-eating again this year, along with Dry Knob Eating – the competition for the most Dorset Knobs

you can eat in three minutes [with no Scrumpy assistance].

Other events include the popular Buggy Racing, held on the Cart Road by the beach for those in disability chariots, Mermaid Sack Racing [for which contestants must wear seaweed wigs] and, the highlight, the Huge Tug O'War.

The Huge Tug O' War is huge as it attracts up to 50 each side. There's a lot of cheating – with adults helping the struggling side and, per last year, one end of the rope getting tied to a lamp post – and as the event invariably coincides with a high tide often a lot of competitors end up falling over in the sea.

But with an army of adults on hand to ensure complete safety, the most frequent cry from the children is 'let's do it again!'

The Lyme Lympics will be held on the Cobb beach at 4pm on Thursday August 14th. Highly-recommended for all families, see for yourself by following this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9hTRMQ9suol>



## LYME REGIS Yearbook 2013

Life during 2013 in Lyme Regis,  
Uplyme & Charmouth

by Philip and  
Francesca Evans

# LYME REGIS YEAR BOOK 2013

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# BE IN BRITAIN'S BIGGEST EVER BAND

*'It should be quite an amazing sight, Ian leading thousands of guitarists playing that anthem actually on the water's edge.'*



ON SATURDAY September 6th at about 4pm on Lyme seafront, an amateur band of 2,000-3,000 guitarists will perform the classic 'Smoke On The Water' led by exactly the right voice, Deep Purple's singer Ian Gillan.

This is Guitars On The Beach, one of the quirkiest events in Lyme's summer calendar – when guitarists of all abilities and ages [as young as 3 and as old as 70+] come from all over the UK to attempt the world record for the most guitarists simultaneously playing the same song.

Last year, 2,267 of them set the British record, all playing Buddy Holly's classic

'Rave On', beating previous attempts in Germany, Canada and the USA.

GOTB is 'a little sideshow' to accompany Dorset chef Mark Hix's Food Rocks festival, which runs the same weekend, September 6th and 7th.

This year the event supported by Fender, Jack Daniels, Axe Music and the Lyme Regis Town Council will see the giant sand band once again perform 'Rave On' led by a house band of local musicians fronted by Billy Geraghty, the Lyme-bred actor who played Buddy Holly in the West End musical 'Buddy'.

The massive band – which is open to anyone to join, free – is also learning the Status Quo hit 'Rocking All Over The World' for the record attempt.

'We've got the guitarists' guitarist Lars Mullen, who is a Quo expert, to lead us on that one,' says organiser Geoff Baker, 'After last year a lot of the players said that they wanted to play more than one song. So we've added five more songs and people can choose to play on all or any of them, following the house band led by local lad Ben Kapur and his ½ Jack band'

The extra songs are: Deep Purple's 'Smoke On The Water', Lynyrd Skynyrd's 'Sweet Home Alabama', ZZ Top's 'Sharp Dressed Man', The Zutons' 'Valerie' and '500 Miles' by The Proclaimers.

It was the inclusion of 'Smoke On The



## LYME REGIS AMUSEMENT ARCADE

THE SAFE AND FRIENDLY ARCADE WHICH  
HAS BEEN POPULAR FOR 50 YEARS AND  
NEVER FAILS TO GIVE PARENTS A BREAK



GOOD LUCK TO GUITARS ON THE BEACH



Water' that prompted Ian Gillan to astonish the organisers when he sent them a note saying, 'I thought I'd offer my services if you need a singer'.

***'All of the organisers were stunned that an actual rock legend wanted to join the event.'***

'The guitar riff for 'Smoke' is one of the most famous of all time and not difficult to play - so we're hoping that many people will want to join in, so they can say they've played in Britain's biggest band with Ian Gillan.

'Hopefully people will join in playing with whatever songs are being played,' says Baker, who is assembling a line-up of 20, mainly-local acts headlined by the hotly-tipped sunshine band Papa Le Gal, all performing from 11am to past 7pm on a makeshift stage erected on the seafront by local scaffolder Nigel Emmett.

Last year the event fell on Buddy Holly's birthday, which earned the giant band a message from Texas from his widow Maria Elena Holly, who wrote, 'You have no idea how I appreciate what you're doing to

celebrate Buddy's birthday, what a fantastic idea.'

'Because it's still a nod to Buddy, we're extending this year's event to include the Sunday too, so that we can mark his birthday on the 7th with a giant, open-mike jam of everybody playing together in the Lister Gardens at lunchtime. It will be quite loose, but it'll be good to do some sort of birthday tribute to one of the legends who started it all,' says Baker.

Everyone who takes part will receive a commemorative scroll designed by Lyme artist David Austin. For a further souvenir, players may like to visit The Town Mill Cheesemonger, where the owner Justin Tunstall is selling commemorative GOTB cheeses in the design of vinyl records with authentic record labelling.

For a guitar, lessons and tips on the record attempt songs, go to Axe Music in Axminster. For more details and to sign up for Britain's biggest band, go to [www.guitarsonthebeach.co.uk](http://www.guitarsonthebeach.co.uk)



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# One of the great man-made wonders of the world

**L**YME has only one icon and like The Colossus of Rhodes and the Lighthouse of Alexandria, The Cobb of Lyme Regis is one of the great manmade wonders of the world.

But unlike those others, The Cobb is all the more wonderful in that it is still standing. Granted, it took massive earthquakes that Lyme has never suffered to reduce the Colossus and Lighthouse to rubble, but anyone who witnessed The Cobb's battering by the seas of the near-hurricane storms of recent years must admire its still-mighty resilience to the fearsome powers of Nature.

One must walk The Cobb to truly appreciate the grandeur of its brilliant engineering. Only by strolling along The High Wall can you see the bevelling, curve and cambers so cleverly designed to resist the crushing force of waves that sweep up from the West.

That The Cobb has remained majestically strong is due to two geniuses of engineering – Captain Robert D'Arcy, who repaired and extended the harbour in 1792, and Colonel Edward Fanshawe, Royal Engineers, who completed 19 months of rebuilding on November 18th 1826.

The Cobb that you see today is in the main the result of Col. Fanshawe's work – rebuilding 232 ft. of the pier and 447 ft. of the parapet [upper

wall], at a cost of £17,337 and ninepence farthing, coming in at almost £2,000 less than the builders' estimate [now there's a rarity]. The dimensions of the modern Cobb are immense – length from shore to the harbour mouth 1,179ft, length of parapet 879ft, length of the quay 360ft, length of the North Wall 206ft, height from lowest foundations 30ft, width at widest point 35ft.

All of which is a vast improvement on the earliest harbours which Lyme has had for at least 720 years.

Exactly how long Lyme has had a harbour is unknown; some historians have suggested that one existed here since the days of the Viking invaders, although such a harbour is thought to have been to the East, between Broad Ledge and First Jetty. Certainly Lyme had a harbour by 1254 as records show that by this time French wines were shipped to the town and in January of that year Henry III ordered Lyme to contribute to a squadron of vessels for an escort to bring his Queen and son to England from Gascony.

But by the 16th Century The Cobb was in existence and clearly shown on the map of the town of 1539.

This early construction was ingenious – double and triple rows of tree trunks were driven into the seabed and the spaces

between them filled in with large rocks and cobble-stones.

By the time of the 1539 map, Lyme had been an important commercial English port for hundreds of years. Wool, hides, tallow and salt





were shipped from The Cobb in its earliest days, and wines, cloth and silk imported to it. Later the town became a major manufacturer of cloth for export and after Elizabethan times sugar, ivory, tobacco and gold-dust were landed here. As the trade grew Lyme rivalled Liverpool for importance – indeed Customs records of 1677 show that the value of goods shipped from Liverpool was £3,507 10 shillings and a penny farthing, as opposed to Lyme's record for the year of £4,643 8 shillings and tenpence ha'penny.

Along with the commercial activity at The Cobb went rough trade too – privateers, essentially pirates who attacked the shipping of any nation except their own, had long sailed from The Cobb and Court records of 1581 reveal that the Spanish Ambassador had frequently made official complaints about the terrorising of 'pirates of Lyme'. Seven years later, the Spanish had more to complain about when three ships were sent from Lyme to join Drake's fleet that smashed the Armada.

As now, fish was the major business of The Cobb as Lyme supplied it to as far as London. But The Cobb must have stank to High Heaven as 16th Century regulations dictated that no fish could be sold outside of the town until it

had been offered for sale locally for six days.

We must presume that The Cobb cleaned itself up a bit at least once a year, for from around 1365 until 1615 The Cobb was also the centre of an annual festivity called The Cobb Ale. Ale in this case meant a fair, although the other ale was clearly a key part of the very great merry-making that was so raucous that men had to surrender their swords on entry and such wanton rumbustiousness went on that the intoxicated amusements were eventually banned by local Puritan preachers.

More gloriously, The Cobb saved the town in 1644 during the Civil War when Lyme withstood an eight-week siege by Royalist forces of 6,000 men. Despite the overwhelming odds, Lyme's largely-amateur garrison saw off the King's men due to supplies and reinforcements landed at The Cobb by Parliamentary ships.

But it has always been the sea which has been The Cobb's greatest enemy and whether as a harbour of trees trunks or sturdier construction, the sea has knocked it down again and again – spectacularly on November 22nd 1824 when Lyme was smashed by England's famous hurricane. The storm coincided with a very high tide and the waves

*'But most of all, The Cobb is Lyme Regis; a great wonder for the best part of a thousand years.'*

ripped a breach in The Cobb, destroying 90 yards of it.

But that was 190 years ago and despite frequent fierce gales since – most especially last year when huge waves left cracks in The Cobb – Lyme's icon has stood firm and fast, and has continued to enchant its hundreds of thousands of visitors.

For Jane Austen and John Fowles, The Cobb was a scene for drama; the place of Louisa Musgrove's violent fall in Persuasion and the site of Sarah Woodruff's lonely sentry in The French Lieutenant's Woman, forever re-enacted at the end of the High Wall every year by hundreds of hooded tourists who cannot go home before getting their 'French Lieutenant shot'.



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# HIX

— Townhouse —

*The boutique B&B is typically Hix; elegantly quirky, stylishly simple, luxury without pomposity.*

HAVING set a bar for dining in Lyme with his hugely-popular Oyster & Fish House, now Mark Hix has expanded into the accommodation market, opening Hix Town House at the top of Broad Street.

Hix Townhouse has eight rooms, each designed by the master himself. The Sailing Room is white, bright, airy with a small terrace. The

Hunting Room has a stag's head, and red leather Chesterfields in the lounge. The Fishing Room is decorated with angling paraphernalia, rods and reels that Hix collected on his many travels as one of Britain's leading chefs and restaurateurs.

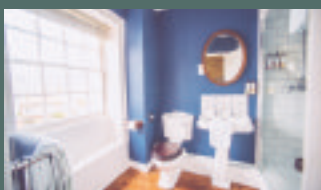
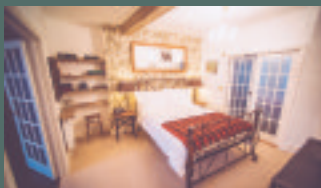
The beds in all of the rooms are king-sized and are made up with gorgeous white cotton bed linen. All

of the bedrooms have en-suite bathrooms with showers or rolltop baths.

At 8.30 every morning, the kitchen team from the Oyster & Fish House deliver a Hix breakfast hamper to your door; the breakfast menu changes each day and features sweet and savoury pastries, tarts, Hix's luxury smoked salmon, orange juice, fresh fruit and Dorset cereals.

Location is key to the appeal of the Town House. It is at the top of Lyme's main shopping area, Broad Street [although the actual address is 1 Pound Street] and barely 10 steps away from the beautifully-tranquil Langmore Gardens, through which a three-minute stroll will take you to both the seafront and to the Oyster House with its sensational views of Lyme Bay and Hix's acclaimed menu of dishes including paper-baked fillet of Torbay red gurnard, Newlyn monkfish and butternut squash curry, rock and native oysters, fish house pie and Lyme Bay mackerel tartare, plus a superb quality wine list and his famous Hix Fix cocktail.

[www.hixtownhouse.co.uk](http://www.hixtownhouse.co.uk)



TEL: 01297 442 499  
[hixtownhouse.co.uk](http://hixtownhouse.co.uk)  
[info@hixtownhouse.co.uk](mailto:info@hixtownhouse.co.uk)

# HIX

— Townhouse —

1 Pound St, Lyme Regis  
Dorset, DT7 3HZ

A UNIQUE AND ELEGANT GEORGIAN TOWNHOUSE FEATURING EIGHT PERSONALLY DESIGNED ROOMS BY MARK HIX



# Max the Mullet Whisperer

**M**OVE over David Attenborough – now Lyme has a new natural history experience, hand-feeding wild fish with the world's only Mullet Whisperer.

After 10 years of patient training, Max Gollop has tamed a large shoal of notoriously-shy grey mullet to feed from the fingertips of visitors to his Marine Aquarium on The Cobb.

Now mullet-tamer Max's friendly fish are fast becoming a star attraction for children from all over the UK as families flock to the aquarium for the unique hands-on experience.

'You have never felt anything like it,' says Max, 'mullet have no teeth, so it feels like hundreds of little kisses on your hand.'

'You start by lowering your clenched hand containing food into the water, then you slowly open your hand to reveal the food for these wonderfully-tame creatures who will gently suck, caress and kiss your hand as they feed on the food.'

'It's a natural history experience unlike any other and children love it. It's not something that most people have ever done, but now everybody wants to try it.'

Fishermen call mullet 'the grey ghost' because the shy fish are so difficult to catch, let alone hand-feed, and it has taken Max since 2004 to gain their confidence and trust.

'I've bred and trained racing pigeons since I was a boy and I used the same principles to train the mullet,' says Max.

'You have to give them enough food to keep them fit and healthy but you mustn't overdo it. Ninety per cent of fish that people keep at home are over-fed because owners forget that in the wild they will only eat when they are hungry.'

'We've got three species of mullet in the tank, thick-lipped, thin-lipped and golden grey. The oldest is 12-years-old, although mullet aren't fully-grown until they get to the age of 20. But even the little ones are incredibly tame – they are so relaxed that sometimes they will even play football, they're the Oceans Eleven.'

'Feeding the mullet is an interactive experience for all the family; I give everyone a little natural history chat all about the fish and how I tamed them. It's great to see so many people keen to get really close to nature.'

The Marine Aquarium was first opened in 1958 by Lyme businessman Oliver Farnworth, who ran it until 1982 when Max's uncle Ken Gollop took over the popular attraction. Max took over in 2001 and has built up the business to have a huge following online.

The aquarium has won Trip Adviser's Certificate Of Excellence for the past four years running.

One recent visitor wrote: 'Yes it's small, but it is extremely friendly and very relevant and worth the money supporting this local business teaching us all about the local marine life.'

'Our 4-year-old son insisted on feeding the mullet two days in a row, it's a real hands-on experience which is very exciting and memorable for children. You can also hold a starfish from one of the other tanks. The aquarium is simple and displays the marine life from all around Lyme, which frankly I think is more important than show-stopping sharks and dolphins leaping through hoops. We never tire of coming here.'

'The aquarium is something of a Lyme institution and coming here has become traditional for hundreds of families who like to pass on the experience to each new generation,' said Max, who also has lobsters, wrasse, hermit crabs, sea scorpions, sea mice and pipefish in the various tanks to see close-up.

'And there's the big bass in another tank – but they are not for feeding and it could be startling if you tried as they can swim at 15 feet per second. They are my other 'family', I've reared 22 of them since 2008 and haven't lost one,' said Max.

He has also newly-created an adoption scheme for children to adopt a mullet. The adoption package, which directly helps to provide the best care for all of the creatures of the aquarium, includes VIP membership with three free visits to feed the fish, an official adoption certificate, newsletter, key-ring, fridge magnet and other treats.

**For more information on the adoption scheme and all of the aquarium's attractions –**  
[www.lymeregismarineaquarium.co.uk](http://www.lymeregismarineaquarium.co.uk)



## Lyme Regis Marine Aquarium

- Interactive Aquarium - Feed the mullet and hold a starfish
- A variety of fish and marine life on display that can be found in Lyme Bay
- Shoal of Bass, Ballon Wrasse, Blennies, Hermit Crab, Topknot
- Established 1958

**Lyme Regis Marine Aquarium, The Cobb, Lyme Regis | 01297 444230**





SCIENCE, ARTS, LANDSCAPE

01297 443370

Lyme Regis Philpot Museum  
Bridge Street  
Lyme Regis  
DT7 3QA

info@lymeregismuseum.co.uk

WWW.LYMEREGISMUSEUM.CO.UK

# Rock star Experience

IT IS little wonder that Lyme's superb Philpot Museum gives great praise and some prominence on its excellent website to the American novelist Tracey Chevalier, for perhaps she has done more than anyone to draw most visitors to it.

Ms Chevalier's book, *Remarkable Creatures*, has put Mary Anning, the hitherto relatively unknown Lyme heroine, on the contemporary map with many book-clubbers and students who have studied her work at school.

Although not as successful as her 4 million-selling *Girl With A Pearl Earring*, the enormous hit of that book and the Colin Firth/Scarlett Johansson film of it caused hundreds of thousands to read *Remarkable Creatures* – especially in the USA, where it

was a New York Times bestseller – and introduced them to the no-less-remarkable story of Mary.

Consequently, the museum reports that many, many visitors now flock to the Philpot, propelled by the book to eagerly learn more of Mary and drawn too by the fact that the Anning collection is housed in a beautiful building erected by descendants of her friends in the Philpot family on the very site of the small and unimpressive home of the impoverished and tragic first lady of fossils.

Now, 167 years after her death from breast



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Opening Times:

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“...drawn too by the fact that the Anning collection is housed in a beautiful building erected by decendants of her friends in the Philpot family.”

cancer at the tragically-young age of 47, Mary Anning is deservedly lauded world-wide, both as a luminary scientist and as a feminist icon, whose discoveries that went largely un-credited in her lifetime. She was a working-class woman whose discoveries challenged the false beliefs of the Creation theory by an Establishment propped-up by upper-middle class men.

Nothing, including Ms Chevalier's book, gives a better understanding of Mary than the enchanting and detailed exhibition of her life and work at Lyme's museum. If you do little else during your visit to the town, make this your priority, for the collection of fossils and Mary's personal effects gives the most wonder-making insight into the humble, eccentric and lowly local who became one of the great women of science.

And now that Mary Anning is on the curriculum of UK primary schools, the museum should be a special place of interest for any families with young children - for there is nowhere better to educate them of the fascinations of her study, the drawing of her little home, her 'Common-place Book' diary where she wrote poems and hymns and, of course, the most fabulous fossils.

It is inconceivable that the museum's Mary Anning collection was anything but the greatest inspiration for Ms Chevalier.

During her research for Remarkable Creatures - which is set to shortly become a movie - Ms Chevalier made many trips out to the fossil cliffs east and west of Lyme in the expert company of Paddy Howe, one of Lyme's foremost fossil-finders, the museum's geology curator and a leading authority on where and how Mary made her discoveries.

Now visitors to the museum can share the same experience with popular Paddy as he and his colleagues lead daily fossil tours

from the museum to the cliff beaches, literally walking in the footsteps of Mary Anning and providing the most first class experience face-to-face with natural history. If you want to find a fossil in Lyme, go with Paddy; there is no greater guide of where to look and he never comes back without some fascinating find.

Times and details of the fossil walks, and the no-less-fascinating Jane Austen and Lyme literary tours led by Natalie Manifold and Chris Lovejoy's Lyme history tours, are available from the reception at the museum.

But there is much, much more inside the Philpot Museum than the story of Mary Anning. The many mind-widening exhibits include Lyme's links with Jane Austen, who was inspired by her visits to the town for the writing of Persuasion, and John Fowles, who wrote the Lyme-set French Lieutenant's Woman here and was himself a curator of the museum for many years.

Just as fascinating are the collections which tell the story of the Civil War Siege of Lyme, complete with cannon balls and musket shot, and the inside tales on Britain's last great sedition, the Monmouth Rebellion, including the head of the bed where he slept. Also histories of the [unrelated] artists James and Laurence Whistler, of George Somers, the great seafarer and discoverer of Bermuda, and all manner of other exhibits ranging from Lyme At War to Neolithic axeheads, the awe-inspiring tales of shipwrecks and rescues, the story of Lyme's old railway and, not to be missed, the world's most fabulously-tiny fire engine.

Admission prices are £3.95 for adults, £3.45 for senior citizens and accompanied children enter free. A rewarding visit is well-worth anybody's money. The museum is also fund-raising for a Mary Anning Wing and contributions from any who want to join the tribute to a great woman of history will be gratefully received.



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**Sunday 24th August**

Kick-off 2pm

**at Lyme Regis Football Club**

Admission £3 (children £1)

**Meet The Players**

Saturday 23rd August, 8pm

Tickets £10 (including buffet)

**To book hospitality call 01297 446155**



# Lyme Regis

Photo File by Richard Austin



**A**WARD-winning news photographer Richard Austin is one of the West Country's most high profile photographers with his work being featured regularly in publications all over the world.

Although he specialises in animal photography, having fronted his own popular television programme, "Richard Austin's Animal Magic", Richard's portfolio

embraces all aspects of news and sports photography.

Lyme born and bred, Richard has recorded all the major events in his home town over the last 30 years and examples of his work, a glimpse of which is recorded in these pages, can be seen at his shop, Richard Austin Images, in Coombe Street.









# Lyme Folk

*Weekend* August 29 to 31



We had such a great time last year,  
we decided to do it all again...  
We hope you're going to join us!  
**See inside for what we've got planned...**



Pictures by  
ANDY NEAL

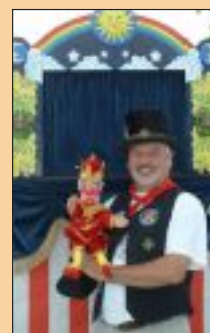




## What's new in 2014

Welcome back to Lyme Folk Weekend 2014. We had a brilliant time at our inaugural festival, and we think this year will be even more amazing. Here is a taste of some of the things we're planning... Watch out for **The Tricky Cider Company**, who are bringing their mobile cider bar for the weekend... There is traditional seaside entertainment for all ages on the beach with the **Puppetree Company's Punch and Judy show**... Look out for the wonderful

artwork (left) on our Lyme Folk T-shirts, designed for us by local artist **Sam Cannon** and available in the **Blue Lias** gallery.. We are pleased to welcome **Hellhound Brewery**, all the way from Suffolk... And don't forget to buy your raffle tickets for a chance to win our beautiful **Ibanez black acoustic guitar**, signed by all our headliners from 2013... Plus all the usual music, dancing, street theatre... We can't wait for August — hope to see you there!

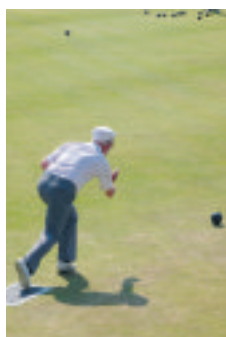


## LYME REGIS BOWLS CLUB

Public Green Available  
New Members Welcome

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[www.lymeregisbowlsclub.co.uk](http://www.lymeregisbowlsclub.co.uk)



Lyme Regis Football Club is the perfect venue for any party or celebration.

The clubhouse offers seating for up to 80 people, and a marquee on the pitch is also an option.

Hire costs are £15 per hour with use of the bar, or £12 per hour without the bar

For more details call Gerard on 07814 114973.

For details on how you could sponsor Lyme Regis Football Club call Adrian on 07825 363543

*Come and cheer on the Seaside!*

Home games are played most Saturdays from September to May

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## What's on?

Lyme Folk Weekend



ONCE AGAIN we are thrilled to welcome some of British folk music's finest musicians to Lyme's beautiful Marine Theatre. Our shows, hosted by **Catherine Burke** (left) feature legendary guitarist **Martin Simpson** (right), the award-winning **Lisa Knapp**, Devon duo **Jim Causley and Lukas Drinkwater**, the amazing **Ducie**, and rounding off the weekend, the spectacular **Demon Barbers XL**. *See inside for details.*



Marine Theatre



IF YOU'RE looking for something a little livelier, get yourself down to our 'Second Stage' at the Pilot Boat. The shows start at 7.30pm each night of Lyme Folk Weekend, and carry on till late with some of the finest up and coming bands around. Our friends **Patch & the Giant** (right) are back, as are **Mischa and His Merry Men** (left). Other great acts include the brilliant **Mitchell & Vincent**, **Morgan & Knapp** and **Lee Rahn**.



Pilot Boat



WHAT COULD be better than spending the afternoon on Lyme Regis seafront, soaking up the sun and enjoying some brilliant music from some of the best local talent? Between 11am and 4pm every day of the weekend, the Marine Parade shelters we have the soulful **Wildwood Kin** (right), the ever popular **Wareham Whalers**, the wonderful **Aimee** (left), plus **Beccy Red**, **Six Days**, **Fenne Lily**, and many more...



Seafront stage

FREE!



ONE OF the things we love about Lyme Folk Weekend is that it gives us the chance to show of our amazing town. And there's something happening around every corner, on the seafront, at the **Town Mill** or at **Aroma Cafe**. We have the incredible **Steampunk Morris** (left), **Punch and Judy**, Lyme's very own stone-balancer **Adrian Gray** (right), and if you feel like joining in, bring your instrument (or voice!) to the session on Marine Parade.



Out and about

FREE!



SATURDAY NIGHT at Lyme Folk Weekend gives you the chance to get your dancing shoes on and party the night away. Join us in the Langmoor Gardens Marquee for a high energy ceilidh hosted by the brilliant **Dorset Ceilidh Band**. This fantastic young group of musicians are busy carving a name for themselves on the folk scene, so come and have a dance to one of the liveliest ceilidh bands around.



Ceilidh



IT WOULDN'T be the same without a parade, now would it? Saturday morning gives all our Morris visitors — as well as our very own **Uplyme Morris** — the opportunity to get together and show what they can do. They'll be joined once again by our friends from the **Dorset Dub Club**, whose classic campervans were such a hit on the seafront last year. Let's line Broad Street and Marine Parade to cheer everyone on!



VW & Morris parade

FREE!

Lyme Regis Community Bingo Association

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# Martin Simpson

Martin Simpson **plus**  
Jim Causley & Lukas Drinkwater.  
Marine Theatre.  
Fri Aug 29, from 7.30pm.  
Standing: £15. Seats: £19.  
16 and under: £10/£14.

**Marine  
Theatre  
show**

We are thrilled to welcome to Lyme a musician widely acknowledged as one of the finest acoustic guitar players in the world. Martin has been nominated an astounding 31 times in the 15 years of the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, — more than any other artist — twice winning Musician of the Year. This year he picked up

two more awards as part of folk supergroup The Full English, for Best Group and Best Album. Whether playing American old-time music, blues, a Bob Dylan song or his own material, Martin is unpredictable, individual and a guitarist of immense subtlety. His solo shows are intense, eclectic, spellbinding and deeply moving.



**PLUS:**

## Jim Causley & Lukas Drinkwater



After captivating our audiences at last year's festival, Devon folk singer Jim Causley returns by popular demand. This year the five times BBC Radio 2 Folk Award nominee — and all round cheeky chappie — will be accompanied by another Devonian, the versatile and talented Lukas Drinkwater.

Multi-instrumentalist Lukas is best known as the bassist with festival favourites 3 Daft Monkeys, and for his solo work. Jim is renowned for his warm and jovial stage presence and rich singing voice, and the pair have been performing together since last year, bringing a fresh, innovative and charming approach to their material.

### Where to buy tickets

**Tickets for all three Marine Theatre shows are available:**

- On our website: [www.lymefolk.com](http://www.lymefolk.com)
- By phone: 01297 442138
- or by visiting Lyme Regis Tourist Information Centre, Church Street, Lyme Regis.

(Tickets for Pilot Boat and ceilidh are available on the door or from the festival office on the seafront)

Enjoying your stay in Lyme Regis? Return for the town's wackiest festive event

## The Great Christmas Pudding Race!

**Saturday,  
December 6th  
2014**  
Family teams  
welcome



Full details on our website [www.xmaspuddracelymeregis.co.uk](http://www.xmaspuddracelymeregis.co.uk)



Saturday August 30



## Lisa Knapp

The last 12 months have seen Lisa Knapp firmly established as one of the most creative and distinctive artists around. Her acclaimed new album, *Hidden Seam*, includes the haunting *Shipping Song*, inventively based on the radio shipping forecast, and the wonderful *Two Ravens*, winner of this year's Best Original Song at the Radio 2 Folk Awards. Lisa is bringing her band to Lyme, the perfect setting for her dramatic and adventurous songwriting.

Lisa Knapp **plus**  
Ducie.

Marine Theatre.

Sat Aug 30, from 7.30pm.

Standing: £15. Seats: £19.

16 and under: £10/£14.

## PLUS... Ducie

We really couldn't have put on this year's festival without Ducie, who blew our audiences away last year. Ducie are led by brilliant violinist Andy Dinan, one quarter of the original Bad Shepherds featuring Ade Edmondson, who went down a storm at Glastonbury, Cambridge and Camp Bestival. Guitarist Ian Fletcher, bassist Jon Thorne and percussionist Richard Sliwa bring Cuban, African and jazz influences to create a wholly unique fusion sound. Don't miss this amazing Mancunian quartet with their unique and thrilling virtuoso style.

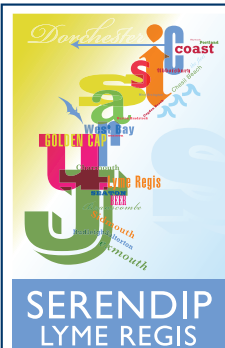


**Marine  
Theatre  
show**



Pic: Peter Wiles

Sunday at the Marine  
Theatre — see next page



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# Demon Barbers XL

**Marine  
Theatre  
show**



If you're new to the Demon Barbers, we guarantee you've never seen anything quite like it before!

Renowned for their no-holds-barred approach to their live performances, the Barbers return to the concert stage with a very modern twist to their multi-award-winning Road Show. Come and see the UK's most exciting young folk, hip hop and break-dancers in the live folk music spectacular of the year!

This afternoon show is a must-see for all the family.

Demon Barbers XL.

Marine Theatre.

Sun Aug 31, from 5pm.

Standing: £15. Seats: £19.

16 and under: £10/£14.

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**Website:** [www.mackerelfishinglymeregis.com](http://www.mackerelfishinglymeregis.com)



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£9 for adults and £6 for  
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**Deep Sea  
Fishing Trips**

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Rod and bait included and  
as much tuition as you need



# Fancy a dance?

ONLY  
£5

Watch out for the amazing Steampunk Morris – and then let off some of your own steam at the Lyme Folk ceilidh!



Steampunk Morris

The fabulous, fantastical **Steampunk Morris** were the talk of the town at last year's Lyme Folk Weekend, and they had such a good time they begged us to let them come back — well, what could we say? Catch them out and about around the town all weekend (you might even find them dancing in the sea, if last year is anything to go by), and in Saturday morning's Morris parade, where they will join the dozens of dance sides taking part in this year's festival.

**Langmoor  
Gardens  
marquee**

And if watching them gives you itchy feet, there is the perfect opportunity to let off a little steam of your own. Come and join us at the **Lyme Folk Ceilidh** dance, in the Langmoor Gardens Marquee on Saturday night. We are delighted that the brilliant **Rookwood** – 'the ultimate folk party band' – will be playing and calling at our dance. Tickets for the ceilidh are just £5, available on the door or all weekend at the Lyme Folk office on the seafront.



Rookwood



*The Woodmead Halls*

LYME REGIS

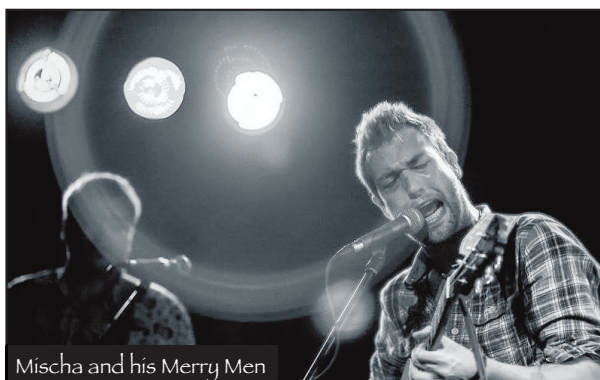
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# Party time at the Pilot Boat!



Mischa and his Merry Men



Lee Rahn



Morgan & Knapp

**ONLY  
£5**



Patch and the Giant

If you're looking for something a little livelier at Lyme Folk Weekend then get yourselves down to the Pilot Boat.

The doors open at 7.30pm each night of the festival (Friday to Sunday) for some really great live acts who are sure to make your weekend go with a bang.

Our friends from London, **Patch & the Giant**, return for a Saturday night shindig, and we are pleased also to welcome back the ever-energetic **Mischa and his Merry Men** to open proceedings on Friday night.

Also up from the Big Smoke is the brilliant up-and-coming **Lee Rahn**, plus Bristol duo **Morgan and Knapp**, the wonderfully talented duo **Mitchell and Vincent** and many more guests and surprises.

Come on, Lyme Regis, it's the weekend — let's party!

Tickets: £5 per night. Available on the door or from the Lyme Folk Weekend office on the seafront.



Mitchell & Vincent



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The winner of the competition to win a signed Richard Austin Storm Book in the first issue of the Lyme Experience was

**Mr D J Howes, 8 Redcar Road, Wolverhampton WV10 6PP | Tel: 01902 78710**



EVERY golfer who visits Lyme should play at least one round in their life at the town's golf club, for they will never afterwards forget the magnificent beauty of its scenery – and this summer is the perfect time for it as the club is hosting a variety of Opens for all types of golfer.

Lyme Regis Golf Club is renowned for its scenery, you will not find better views on any course in the Westcountry.

The official listings guide to every golf course in England, [www.englishgolfcourses.co.uk](http://www.englishgolfcourses.co.uk), says this about the Lyme course: 'What a simply superb place for a quiet round of golf, the scenery is utterly spectacular and you won't want to take your eyes off it.'

The course is 6,264 yards, a par 71. The greens are excellent; subtle and requiring a keen reading and thanks to an expert team of greenkeepers, they are always kept that way.

And never more so than now as the club prepares for a splendid season of Summer Opens.

**Saturday August 2nd** Junior [under-18] Open. 18-hole Medal and Daily Telegraph Qualifier.

**Tuesday August 5th** Ladies 3-Ball bowmaker.

**Saturday August 9th** Open Mixed 4-Ball Better Ball stableford.

**Monday September 1st** Senior Open 4-Ball Better Ball stableford.

**Saturday September 6th** Men's 4-Ball Better Ball stableford.

**Saturday September 20th** Captain's Charity Day Open 4-Ball progressive bowmaker.

**Sunday September 21st** Jurassic Coast Golf Tournament.

To be sure of a round, it is advisable to consult the club website, where you can also find entry forms for the Opens, [www.lymeregisgolfclub.co.uk](http://www.lymeregisgolfclub.co.uk) or email the Secretary at [admin@lymeregisgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:admin@lymeregisgolfclub.co.uk)

Besides being the home of glorious golf, the club has long been known to members as a place to excellently dine – but few non-members or visitors are aware that they can dine here too.

The restaurant, which boasts the most outstanding views and a varied menu with daily specials, is open from 10am Monday to Saturday for breakfast, lunch and dinner. On Sundays, it is open from 7.30am for early breakfast to cater for the competitions. Sunday is also the day of the club's legendary carvery – and due to its popularity booking is advisable.

# Summer Opens at Lyme's Spectacular Golf Club



## Enjoy 18 holes of golf...

surrounded by some of the most stunning views on the South Coast



### Golf

Book your tee-time online and get the best rates available

Visiting golfers are always very welcome

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Please ring for further details



### Restaurant

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Telephone 01297 442963

[f Lyme Regis Golf Club](#) [@lymegolfclub](#)

# A place of wondrous opportunity



IT'S a big problem facing hundreds of thousands of young adults who have left school this summer, and a headache too for their frequently-worried parents: what on Earth do we do now?

The choices are becoming increasingly bleak. Should you go to university, knowing that 47% of last year's graduates are working in jobs for which they did not need a degree anyway? And do you want fries with that?

Should you even commit yourself to the risk of taking on a £27,000 tuition fees debt when one in 10 graduates are still unemployed six months after graduating?

Maybe you should just take a gap year, hike off to bury your head in Australia for a bit and forget the pressing horror of the anxious uncertainty that will ruin this summer for tens of thousands of young people?

Or here's an option – at half the cost of university, in less than one third of the time that it takes to get a degree and without the need to get an A-star anything, train to be a craftsman of tomorrow at a world-leading college from which pretty much every graduate gets a great, fulfilling, worthwhile and envied job?

Where is this place of wondrous opportunity? It's tucked away at the far end of Monmouth Beach in Lyme Regis; it's called The Boat Building Academy, and it is probably the finest of its kind in the world.

They have built boats in Lyme Regis for more than 700 years, since it was an important harbour in the reign of Edward I, but perhaps never more prestigiously than now, when Lyme is now home to a college of such unparalleled status that for a boat builder to say that he was trained in Lyme is like a footballer saying that he played for Real Madrid.

'We don't build boats, we build boat-builders; the objective is to teach the skills,' says Yvonne Green, principal of the Academy whose graduates are the most sought-after on the planet.

'There is something seriously wrong if our graduates are not employed three months after finishing the course, one month to employment is nearer the norm; boat-builders' skills are in short supply and the demand for them throughout the world is now very high. This is a thriving industry.'

With the emergence of the super-rich, the bankers, hedge fund managers and oligarchs, has come a boom in the business of boats, yachts and super-yachts. Boat-building is the place where the smart young thinkers are aiming to be, and in less than a year you can be in the marine industry.

The academy runs a 38-week boat-building, maintenance and support course which, at £13,950, is a saving of



“We don’t build boats,  
we build boat-builders;  
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teach the skills.”

Yvonne Green  
Boat Building Academy Principal



£13,000 on the cost of a pot-luck degree. The course teaches students to build boats to professional industry standards, hands-on comprehensive instruction in traditional and modern wooden construction and plastics as well as allied marine skills like restoration. Alongside this the academy offers a 12-week, £5,000 course in woodworking skills, turning out good, solid craftsmen and furniture-makers, with all of the myriad benefits of that.

‘Our boat-building graduates go on to work all over the world in all areas of the marine industry but in other areas as well. For instance, because we teach working with plastics as well as wood, one is just going to work building Formula 1 racing cars, as the skills are the same,’ says Yvonne.

‘And because ours is the best practical course of anywhere and we have the best instructors, we have students coming from all over the EU and the best people

want to hire them when they’ve finished. For instance Spirit Yachts of Ipswich, who build beautiful yachts – James Bond has one in one of his films – they are keen to take our graduates. Cockwells in Cornwall, another legendary yard, I think we’ve got four graduates there.’

Another graduate, who had an idea for a prototype of a boat which he built at the academy, has just sold his 250th copy of it. Another is doing so handsomely with a mobile boat repair business that is attracting more work than he can cope with and a former marine chaplain studied here so that he could set up a charity teaching former Servicemen how to build fishing boats and make themselves a living by fishing.

And it’s not just the young who are turning to this worthwhile new vocation. Students as old as 72 come to the academy, many of them mid-lifers who have suddenly realised that there is more to living than bigging-up their bank account.

‘Things have changed since the financial crisis of 2008; increasingly people in financial services are seeing that working with your hands is good, to have a side skill that enables you to actually make

something that is tangible, practical, beautiful, that’s something worth doing with your life.

‘Families have started to look more closely at what their kids should do. Is earning big money the be-all when you could do something creative and practical, when you could be alive, getting good jobs by making things? What we are doing here is very much a role model for that sort of future thinking.’

No formal qualifications are needed to enter The Boatbuilding Academy, save commitment, enthusiasm and the drive to work a 12-hour day extremely hard.

‘Boat-building is not just a good career for people, it’s a career that is good for people,’ says Yvonne, ‘I don’t recall ever seeing a miserable boat-builder.’

For a prospectus and more information on the skills that could make your life, go to [www.boatbuildingacademy.com](http://www.boatbuildingacademy.com) or call 01297 445545.



[www.boatbuildingacademy.com](http://www.boatbuildingacademy.com)



# Lyme's treasure chest for the surfing generation

*...‘began to create a surf community which is already thriving and which promises to become in future years the centre of a whole new youth market for Lyme.’*

FOR most of its history there was pretty much only one thing that you wanted to do if you were a young person in Lyme Regis – and that was to leave town.

Although Lyme and its scenery has remained quaint and pretty for centuries and as such has long proved an attraction for the elderly and families with young children, once you grew out of building sand castles the town had little lure for the young – pretty much as you would expect for a place whose reputation is built on fossilisation.

But that all began to change a few years ago largely thanks to a young entrepreneur called Murray Saunders and his vision to build a watersports scene in Lyme that was more dynamic than just the genteel pursuit of sailing a Mirror dinghy.

Armed with verve, a zest from his teens for windsurfing and a keen business sense honed from his studies at Exeter University, Murray set up the watersports centre Boylos on the seafront, in the Shelters, and with his partner Ellie Boyle began to create

a surf community which is already thriving and which promises to become in future years the centre of a whole new youth market for Lyme.

Boylos is a treasure chest for the surfing generation, stocking 61 brands from Aeron to Xcel of pretty much everything for wind-surfing, kitesurfing, snorkelling, diving, kayaking and the new rave watersport of stand up paddle boarding [SUP]. Equipment, accessories, wet wear, beach wear, street wear, everything is here, including water-sports lessons, advice, tips, invaluable local knowledge on the tides and the reefs and a place where the like-minded can gather and share their enthusiasms.

‘I’ve been windsurfing in Lyme since I was 16 and at school here but there was never anyone for me to talk to about it,’ says Murray, now 28.

‘There were only about three or four of us doing it but there was nobody who could give me any help or encouragement and nowhere to get any advice, so I thought that I would try to change that.’





*'A surfer had gone for the first wave and I was left with the second of the set which ended up being a monster! I remember looking down the drop and just holding my breath'*

And he has, quite remarkably. The Boylos set is drawing more and more wind and kitesurfers and SUP boarders to Lyme, not only in the summer but, increasingly all-year round as the autumn winds bring the bigger waves and the first seas of Spring grow tall enough to allow Murray and his crew to perform the somersaults and general board gymnastics that stop mere walkers in their tracks on the Front.

'Windsurfing in Lyme on the right days is brilliant!' says Murray, 'Most windsurfers here are wave sailors and therefore favour the big South and South West winds which are cross-on or cross shore breezes, usually bringing waves with them. The sheltered waters nearer the harbour give a great run-up to the ramps that form near the middle of the Bay, making Lyme a fantastic jumping spot.'

SUP-surfing is equally well served in the Bay and late last year, on the day that the Boylos crew call Big Monday, when 45-knots winds were roaring, local SUP legend Nick Wall was photographed surfing a wave that is reckoned to have been 15-20ft high.

'I wasn't there long when the wave came through,' he recalled. 'A surfer had gone for the first wave and I was left with the second of the set which ended up being a monster! I remember looking down the drop and just holding my breath; I thought if I did anything I had to make the drop. As it turned out I made it and bottomed turned up to see the lip way above me peeling. I straight-lined it and just snuck around the breaking section. It's definitely the best wave I've ever had here and one of the best I've ever had, full stop.'

As summer is here and the seas are

generally calmer, stand up paddling is a bit more sedate, but the growing enthusiasm for the sport is none the less for that; every Wednesday more than 30 SUP boarders gather in Lyme at the club that Boylos has instituted and it's Murray's tip that this is definitely the sport for this summer.

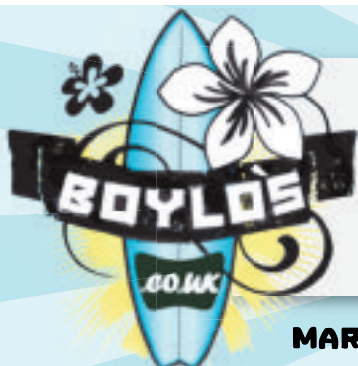
'It's ideal because anybody can do it,' he says. 'We have people aged from 11 to over 50. Old, young, fat, thin, everybody is getting into SUP. It's just so pleasant, so relaxing to be out there paddling in the Bay.'

Besides providing SUP lessons with boards and all the kit provided at £25 an hour, Boylos are also recommending the new inflatable SUP boards for the sport's rapidly-growing numbers.

'Not everybody has a garage where they can store a 10 ft board or a vehicle to transport it,' says Murray, 'But the new inflatable boards are just perfect; you pump them up to 16 psi and they become rock solid. But even though they "grow" into a ten foot six board, when you deflate them they roll up small enough to carry in a backpack. You can take them easily and effortlessly wherever you want, they're wicked!'

To find out what watersport is best for you, for SUP lessons and advice on all things water or to check out the best range of surf wear on the Jurassic coast, pop into Boylos just beyond The Bay Hotel. The team are renowned as one of the friendliest and most helpful in all of Lyme and you'll be joining the start of a local scene that will become a boom.

[www.boylos.co.uk](http://www.boylos.co.uk)



## BOYLO'S WATERSPORTS STORE

Wetsuits - Surf Lifestyle - Surf Hardwear  
Kayaks - Stand Up Paddle - Accessories

Visit us on the Marine Parade, Lyme Regis.  
Please check out our website [www.boylos.co.uk](http://www.boylos.co.uk)

Stand Up Paddle Lesson  
£25/hr (min age 12yrs)



**MARINE PARADE LYME REGIS ▶ DT7 3JH, TEL 01297 444222**



Hi  
My name is  
**ROVER**  
and I love  
the way that  
Lyme has now  
gone to the  
dogs.



Once upon a Lyme, I wasn't so welcomed in the town; forever getting tied to lamp posts outside pubs, left to whine and peer-in piteously from the pavement. But now it's a pup's paradise.

I don't know how it happened. Maybe one day somebody woke up and realised, hang about, we're missing a trick, 28% of homes have a dog, that's a lot of customers, but, wow wow, that doggy in the window is no longer just a reflection of me these days.

My favourite place is Pug & Puffin in Broad Street, the hound dog's Harrods. It makes me wag just to think about it; they've got fancy leads and cool collars, groovy bandanas so I don't look like a dog's dinner, snug beds, cushions, harnesses, bowls in more colours than you can shake a stick to chase at, car restraints so that I'm safe on a drive too, fancy fitted raincoats, Lily's Kitchen treats in all sorts of flavours, and those nice women Janet and Jenny Wiscombe will even give you a free biscuit if you fake looking mournful enough. Best of all they've got little doggy lifejackets!

Just down from Pug & Puffin, opposite The Royal Lion Hotel [the plushiest place in town where pets are allowed to stay] you'll find the dog-friendly Galley cafe. The Galley is a bit like Lyme's version of the Friends bar. Besides the dining area, there's sofas to slump in, inspirational local art on the walls and along with the pastries and locally-sourced, home-created other meals, they sell the wondrous wares of the Posh Pasty Company triple cheese and onion, minted lamb and yoghurt, spicy 3-bean, steak and stout and even mackerel and beetroot.

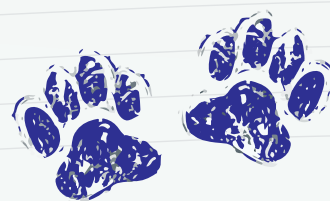
There's two dog-friendly beaches; Back Beach, off Church Street which at low tide stretches all the way to Charmouth; absolutely ideal for a good hour's walk and where I can run off the lead with little fear of wrecking somebody's sandcastle.

But my favourite is Monmouth Beach, to the West of The Cobb. Again I can be let off my lead to hurtle across the sand. I could run around here for ages but you know what owners are like about getting tired and needing refreshment so it's handy then that back at the Cobb hamlet all three of the pubs, The Cobb Arms, The Royal Standard and The Harbour Inn, aren't at all fussed about us dogs dragging The Boss in for a pint.

If you're lucky enough to have an owner who doesn't have lead legs, above Monmouth Beach, just by the Bowling Green, there's a path that leads up the cliffs and once you get to the top it is magnificent, the best views of the Bay and you can run for miles.

Lyme has gone to the dogs and businesses in the town are booming because of it.

Once upon a Lyme if you had a dog you stood as much chance of being welcomed in the shops as if you were dragging around a dead horse. But that's all changed.





# PUG & PUFFIN

Lyme Regis

Unique gifts for you and your dog.

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20 Broad Street, Lyme Regis, DT7 3QE Telephone : 01297 792589  
pugandpuffin.co.uk





# THE ROYAL STANDARD

[www.theroyalstandardlymeregis.co.uk](http://www.theroyalstandardlymeregis.co.uk)

FOR most of its 400 years, the Standard has been one of Lyme's most popular pubs with visitors. Jane Austen probably often popped in for a quick shandy whilst taking notes for Persuasion of the best ways to fall down at The Cobb.

The key reason for the inn's constant popularity in summer is obvious, it is so close to the beach that it may as well have been built of sand.

It is the perfect bolthole for summer living in Lyme; spend all morning sunning yourself, sandcastling and swimming and then literally step off the beach into one of the town's most historic pubs for a pint of the very well-kept Palmer's Dorset ales [Copper 3.7%, Best 4.2%, Gold 4.5% or 200 5.0%] or any of the wide variety of other drinks and cocktails.

The Standard's good, honest, unpretentious food from the best local suppliers has similarly made the pub the perfect location for families for more than 50 years. Breakfasts are served from 10am until Noon and lunch and evening meals from Noon until 9pm.

Naturally, seafood is much on the menu – including fried baby squid with homemade tartare sauce, deep-fried whitebait, prawn and parsley chowder, smoked salmon salad, River Teign mussels, cod and chips of course, crab and lobster salads and the Standard's famous favourite, a pint of prawns.

There's also a wide range of children's meals, steaks, homemade burgers, liver and bacon and mash, sausages and mash, chicken curry, homemade steak and ale pie, a wide choice of sandwiches, baguettes and filled jacket potatoes, goat cheese and Greek salads, absolutely brilliant chips, a wide variety of Ploughman's lunch and specials that change daily.

[www.theroyalstandardlymeregis.co.uk](http://www.theroyalstandardlymeregis.co.uk)



**The Royal Standard**  
25 Marine Parade,  
Lyme Regis, Dorset DT7 3JF  
01297 442637

# THE TOWN MILL BREWERY

[www.townmillbrewery.com](http://www.townmillbrewery.com)

ALTHOUGH not technically a pub, the Town Mill Brewery is rapidly becoming a favourite local for the many who enjoy trying the variety of the freshest-possible beers at the courtyard tables outside.

It is impossible to over-praise the freshness of the ales at this tiniest of Britain's breweries as they are literally made in front of you and pints are taken straight from the barrels at the back.

The beer is tremendously tasty and there is one for every taste on which shop manager Pat Hicks will expertly advise – the hoppy Cobb Ale at 3.9 ABV, the summery Lyme Gold 4.2, the brown bitter of Town Mill Best 4.5 and the exceptionally-superior dark porter Black Ven 5.0. This summer the Town Mill Brewery has introduced a new ale, Pilsdon Pen, a pale golden ale made of lager malts and hops, 4.8 ABV and utterly superb.

Although many enjoy trying the variety of ales in the Town Mill's courtyard, many more like to take it away for picnics on the beach or enjoying at home and Town Mill take-aways are available in a variety of ways, by the bottle, room temperature or ice-cold, 2-pint beer carton, 4-pint polypins, 5-litre polypins and they can sort you out a barrel too.

Along with their acclaimed ales, the Town Mill Brewery also sells a range of the renowned Dorset Nectar ciders, top of the range soft drinks and a hugely-popular range of locally-made pickles, chutney and relish.



**The Town Mill Brewery**  
Mill Lane, Lyme Regis  
Dorset DT7 3PU  
01297 444354



*The Royal Standard*  
Lyme Regis

- Large Beer Garden
- Food Served All Day 12pm - 9pm
- Disabled Access
- Dogs Welcome
- Sea Front Location



The Royal Standard, Lyme Regis, Dorset | Tel: 01297 442637



Nestled in the old town in Lyme Regis, we create delicious real ales in the traditional way using malted barley, hops, yeast and water.

The ever popular beers: Cobb, Lyme Gold, Town Mill Best, Black Ven and Revenge are available in pubs, shops and restaurants across the South West. Come in, watch us brew, taste our beers and have a pint or two.

Drink in the atmosphere down at the Town Mill Brewery Tap.

For more information please visit [www.townmillbrewery.com](http://www.townmillbrewery.com)  
01297 444354 [sales@townmillbrewery.com](mailto:sales@townmillbrewery.com)



# THE ROCK POINT INN

[www.rockpointinn.com](http://www.rockpointinn.com)

THERE is no better pub from which to take in the beauty of Lyme Bay than The Rock Point Inn at the bottom of Broad Street, where the views from both inside and from the sun-drenched beer garden are spectacular.

Spatial, family-friendly and stocking great ales including the Sharp's Cornish Coaster and the serious pint Doom Bar, The Rock Point also has five en-suite rooms with great views upstairs – of which the penthouse is amazing.

The staff are as welcoming as the views, in particular bar manager Matt Puddy, Lyme's popular resident philosopher, and the choice of food is extensive.

Seafood features on the menu magnificently and the choices include: Seafood Chowder of salmon, prawns and haddock in a cream sauce, mussel in wine and garlic sauce, crab and chilli cakes, whitebait, fishermen's pie, pint of prawns, homemade cod and chips, local crab sandwiches, tuna bake and the breaded seafood platter of plaice, haddock, scallops, whitebait, scampi and calamari.

There are also giant burgers, vegetable lasagne of butternut squash and goat cheese, chicken curry, cheddar, stilton and harm ploughman's, a variety of sandwiches and baguettes, a children's menu and daily-changing specials like fresh mackerel, whole dabs and Cornish sardines.

A great place from which to bask in the glorious summer sunsets.



**The Rock Point Inn**  
1-2 Broad St,  
Lyme Regis, Dorset DT7 3QD  
01297 443153

# THE VOLUNTEER INN

[www.thevoli.co.uk](http://www.thevoli.co.uk)

THE late Joe O'Donnell was probably the greatest landlord in the history of Lyme. His happy hospitality was legendary and he was so loved that pretty much the entire town turned out for his funeral.

Joe's peerless welcome and high standards at The Volunteer are now maintained by his family who run the thriving, enchanting inn at the top of Broad Street, where Joe's corner is a local shrine.

The Voli is everything you could want in a pub; overwhelmingly-warm hospitality, great beers including Donegal bitter, a Branscombe-made ale which is the cheapest pint in Broad Street, tremendous Guinness, fabulous food, and the most beautiful barmaid in Dorset.

The food, which can be enjoyed in the charmingly-cosy public bar or the lounge, very Irish with its antique tables, mirrors and candlelight, is hugely popular [Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall dines here] and typical of the homemade dishes are: seared scallops, monkfish, Cajun cod fillet, smoked mackerel rarebit [mackerel, cream and mozzarella on toast], crab linguine, Thai green curry, steamed mussels, organic sirloin steaks, warm beef sandwiches, chicken tagine with chickpeas, apricots and couscous, local fish and chips, homemade fish fingers and the acclaimed Voli burger and Voli fishburger.

Like The Cobb and fossil-hunting, The Volunteer is a Lyme Regis institution and nobody should go home without experiencing the wonder of its welcome.



**The Volunteer Inn**  
31 Broad Street,  
Lyme Regis, Dorset DT7 3QE  
01297 442214

## The Rock Point Inn

*Free House Lyme Regis*

w: [www.rockpoint.com](http://www.rockpoint.com)

t: 01297 443153

a: The Rock Point Inn,  
1-2 Broad Street,  
Lyme Regis, Dorset  
DT7 3QD



Visit *o'donnell's*  
bar

**Volunteer Inn**  
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Tel: 01297 442214

• Free House • Good Food •





# THE NAGS HEAD

[www.nagsheadlymeregis.co.uk](http://www.nagsheadlymeregis.co.uk)

IF YOU want to drink where the locals go, there's nowhere more local than The Nag's Head at the top of Silver Street, opposite the Catholic Church and instantly eye-grabbing for its famously-abundant flower baskets.

For the best part of a century The Nag's has been the local for generation after generation of Lyme families, because of the friendly welcome, the excellent and ever-changing range of ales, the spectacular choice of whiskies and the live music.

Since they took over The Nag's in 1996 landlords Robin and Debbie Hamon have made this happy, family-friendly inn the No 1 place in the town to enjoy a great band.

Although pub rock has died in many other towns in Britain, at The Nag's it is flourishing and throughout the summer there's a band on every Saturday night and most Sundays of every week, where you'll have a guaranteed great time with fine Lyme musicians including Electric Landlady, Design, Delta Tango 7, Tom Toomey, ½ Jack and Perfect Strangers.

The CAMRA-award winning old inn also has six rooms – with magnificent views of Lyme and the Jurassic Coast – Sky Sports, regular darts league matches and Rob's slap-up summer barbecues which, like the pub itself, are locally the stuff of legend.

Check on the website for what's on, there's always something.



PHOTO BY GEOFF BAKER



**The Nags Head**  
32 Silver St, Lyme Regis,  
Dorset DT7 3HS  
01297 442312

# THE TALBOT ARMS

[www.talbotarms.com](http://www.talbotarms.com)

ANOTHER of Lyme's top B&B pubs isn't quite in the town – The Talbot Arms in Uplyme on the edge of Lyme, in Devon. Despite being 'over the border', The Talbot has also been a Lyme locals' local for more than 60 years.

And since Steve and Wendy Gardener introduced their acclaimed range of hearty home-cooked meals and five hotel-standard rooms, the traditional inn has become a visitors' favourite too for its menu including fish pie, steak and ale pie, lasagne, quiche, fish and chips, scampi and its famous steaks that are hung for 28 days.

There are many good reasons for The Talbot's popularity; one being the four Otter Ales and the new Tarka lager on tap which have made the Talbot another CAMRA-recommended choice, ideal to enjoy in the pub's riverside beer garden. And every year a feast of beers that comes to The Talbot for the pub's much-celebrated and massively-enjoyable beer festival, when 40 beers become available. This year The Talbot's October Fest weekend will run October 24th-26th.

It's The Talbot's famously-warm hospitality and hearty home-cooked meals which has won it a wide reputation. The breakfasts are regularly championed on Trip Advisor, as is the wide range of locally-sourced meals, coffee and cake and cream teas.

Visitors and locals are welcome at the popular Over-60s lunches every Thursday – but it's Steve and Wendy's Sunday Carvery that really pulls in the crowds, as in-the-know locals flock to the Carvery week after week for huge portions of quality food at sensible prices. Always book to get a table.

The Talbot also offers sport TV and it's the perfect location for live sport too – just across the road is the pitch and home of the Uplyme Cricket Club, an idyllic setting for where to let your Sunday roast settle after a couple of pints of Otter. A blissful place.



PHOTO BY ROB COOMBE



**The Talbot Arms**  
Uplyme  
Devon DT7 3TF  
01297 443136

## The Nags Head

LYME'S REAL ALE PUB

Live Music • Darts • TV

B&B • Garden • Regular Live Music

Outside seating with views

**01297 442312**

32 Silver Street, Lyme Regis, Dorset DT7 3HS

[www.nagsheadlymeregis.co.uk](http://www.nagsheadlymeregis.co.uk)



## THE TALBOT ARMS



The Talbot Arms is a friendly, local family village pub, serving home cooked food.

Tuesday night is takeaway night

Thursday lunchtime specials

Sunday Carvery • Outside patio area

Coffee & Cake available from 11am

Car Parking

Why not make a night of it and stay over in one of our beautiful, luxury en-suite rooms?

Lyme Road, Uplyme, Nr. Lyme Regis, Devon DT7 3TF • Tel 01297 443136



# Eating Out

*in Lyme Regis*

## The Beach House Café

YOU can always tell a good café by knowing where the locals go, and down at The Cobb this is the number one place for boatmen, divers and early morning workers.

The Full Monty – one of a huge variety of freshly-cooked breakfasts available 8am to 3pm – explains why; a big plateful of eggs, bacon, sausage, tomato, mushrooms and fried bread.

Vegetarians also flock to The Beach House Café because of the wide range of options – including The Full Veggie breakfast of eggs, tomato, mushrooms, baked beans and Homity Pie – and very popular are the Israeli Breakfast of homemade falafel and houmous with pitta bread and salad and the Shakshuka, eggs poached in a spicy tomato sauce.

Besides plentiful portions, another key reason for its popularity is its location – six strides from the beach. And as the café run by mother and daughter Audrey and Katie has tables outside, many like to eat here to

people-watch whilst enjoying other all-day breakfasts like smoked haddock with two poached eggs or smoked salmon and scrambled eggs with Hollandaise sauce on a toasted bagel – and great cream teas.

When the sun starts to set the café is one of Lyme's favourite spots for fun and music – and DJ Mad Jeff will be hosting Reggae Party Friday nights on July 25th and August 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd. The free party nights will run 7pm to Midnight, selling Caribbean food and rum punch and will feature four DJs including Katie.

[www.lymeregis.com/beach-house-cafe/](http://www.lymeregis.com/beach-house-cafe/)



### The Beach House Café

24 Marine Parade, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT73JF  
01297 442059 [www.lymeregis.com/beach-house-cafe/](http://www.lymeregis.com/beach-house-cafe/)



## italia

*Ristorante - Pizzeria*

Family friendly, authentic Italian restaurant – pizzas, pastas and daily specials, including fish, made by Italian chefs with the freshest ingredients. Takeaways available.

Food served 5.30-11.00pm, last orders at 9.30pm. Open daily except Tuesdays

**14-15 Monmouth Street, Lyme Regis DT7 3PX 01297 442 123**



## Italia

ITALIA, at the corner of Coombe Street and Monmouth Street, is a recent addition to Lyme's growing family of restaurants and it has immediately become one of the town's best – attracting not only enthusiastic local diners but other local restaurateurs too.

As their name indicates, the owners Phaedra and Franco Spinelli, are Italian and their antecedence is obvious in the superbly-cooked, traditional classic dishes.

Starters include rolled grilled aubergine, peppers and courgettes in a tastebud-popping minty dressing, homemade chicken liver pate, Parma ham and buffalo mozzarella [with a whole and huge mozzarella ball], king prawns in garlic, tomatoes and wine, smoked salmon with capers and lemon and shellfish soup.

The wide range of 16 pizzas [including the calzones] is impressive and the pizzas are thoroughly authentic; the base is clearly handmade, not suspiciously-perfectly-circular [often a telltale sign of coming out of a packet], the right blend of soft and bite, and the toppings are delicious and also clearly handmade. The caprese pizza is excellent.

The pastas are just as traditionally delicious – among them the spicy penne all'arrabbiata, linguine with basil pesto, green beans, sun-dried tomatoes and pine nuts, tagliatelle with mushrooms and onions in a white wine and cream sauce, genuinely-Italian lasagne and fillet of salmon with a herb crust and Limoncello sauce.

Italia also offers a selection of specials which change daily, desserts including chocolate and pear torte, tiramisu and lemon pannacotta, and a very good selection of Italian beers. The wine list is excellent – especially the Montepulciano red, available by the glass and the bottle – and it includes that rarely-found prince of Italian wines, the Amarone. The Grappa is also highly recommended.

The service is good, prompt, polite and unobtrusive and it's a nice touch that chef Franco does what the great Italian Carluccio does at his Covent Garden restaurant, circulates among the tables mid-meal for a friendly chat.

Interestingly, among Italia's reviews on Trip Advisor – of which 81% recommend the place – is a comment from a woman who said that her Italian partner reckoned the Lyme newcomer to be 'the most authentically-Italian meal that he had ever tasted in Britain'.



### Italia

14 Monmouth Street, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3PX  
01297 442123





## The Mill Café & Supper Club

FRESH, cosy, lively, intimate, sparkling, welcoming, candle-lit and special are some of the words that diners often use to describe the Mill Café & Supper Club, but most of all they say 'delicious'.

The Mill Café, tucked away beneath the stairs at the back of Lyme's Town Mill artisan zone, is an Italian hidden haven that is well worth the effort of finding off the more obvious tracks [although it's only a three-minute walk from the sea].

For while first and second course supper here only costs £20, the ambience would be worth another hundred on top; it is a divine little place, once visited, always a favourite.

Paul and Stefano says that they like the Mill Café to be like eating at home, la cucina di casa, although if most of us had dining rooms of such quality you would never step out of your door.

Simplicity is a complex art, it requires a great deal of cleverness to achieve it and here Milan-bred chef Stefano is its master, brilliantly concentrating on such flavours as to make every first mouthful echo the romantic room with oo's and 'you've got to try this!' It is no surprise to anyone who has dined here that the Mill Café & Supper Club was recently awarded Trip Advisor's certificate of excellence.

Following the easy pleasure of dipping Stefano's acclaimed home-made bread in quality olive oil, the first course offers a choice of Lyme Bay crab salad with cornichons and dill or summer risotto with courgettes, peas and mint.

Second course is a choice of Cornish mackerel with baked onions, peppers and potatoes or free-range chicken with rosemary, cherry tomatoes and black olives or baked aubergines with sweet peppers, tomatoes and mozzarella. For an additional £6 there's a dessert choice of almond tartlets with vanilla cream and summer berries or chocolate, hazelnut and mascarpone brownie with crème fraiche.



Open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 7pm, reservations are advisable on 01297 445757. Also open Monday to Sundays, 10.30am – 4.30pm for mouth-watering lunches and homemade cake teas.



**The Mill Café & Supper Club**  
at The Town Mill, DT7 3PU  
01297 445757 [www.millcafeandsupperclub.co.uk](http://www.millcafeandsupperclub.co.uk)

**The Mill Café and Supper Club**

*It's the place everyone's talking about*

'Delicious food with the best quality ingredients'

'Traditional Italian food at its best'

'Very friendly and a great atmosphere'

'Fantastic food and really good value'

**Call for Supper reservations 01297 445757**  
Town Mill, Mill Lane, Lyme Regis DT7 3PU

## Tierra Kitchen

LYME'S first utterly-vegetarian restaurant has taken the town by storm since it first opened last year. The word-of-mouth reaction has been fantastic and rave reviews from diners have sent this meat-free miracle to rank it No 1 among the town's 63 eateries.

Vegetarians come in all sorts – and now Tierra Kitchen has caused the creation of a new category, moreish-vegetarian.

'I want to eat here everyday!' is the Trip Advisor review that is most-quoted of the Coombe Street restaurant as it perfectly sums up the feelings of many, especially non-vegetarians who are frequently astonished by the quality and vibrancy of the taste of the highly-original dishes and the creative twists on Spanish, French and North African flavours.

For instance, from the 11am – 3pm brunch/lunch menu, Monmouth Brunch Tortilla; three free range eggs, wilted spinach, parsley, cream cheese and Caerphilly cheese, served with triple-cooked chips, sun-blushed tomatoes and organic leaves.

For vegans, brunch can be even more deliciously inventive – like the Strudel of Swiss chard, chestnut mushrooms and roasted cashew nuts baked in filo layers and served with ginger pickled pears, those famous chips and organic leaves.

Skipping to the dinner menu – with the mention that cake teas are also available 11-3 when the choice includes Tierra's near-legendary apple, orange and vanilla almond tart – and it becomes even more inventive: for instance starters of samphire fritters served with pickled cucumber and blueberries, or the no-less creative avocado ravioli with marinated fennel, toasted almonds, orange dressing and optional nettle and feta pesto.

For mains, little can beat the ingenuity of wet garlic and preserved lemon risotto, served with slow-roasted cherry tomatoes, sugar snap peas and almonds with optional old Winchester cheese. Alternatively on the menu for which specials are created daily, there's Swiss tart tartin of home-made, all-butter puff pastry with Swiss chard, caramelised red onion and Emmental cheese, served with radicchio, apricots and Riesling sauce.

With desserts which include dark chocolate and hazelnut truffle pot with passionfruit puree, crushed hazelnuts and blood orange sorbet, you may very well want to eat here every day.



**Tierra Kitchen**  
Coombe Street, DT7 3PY  
01297 445189 [www.tierrakitchen.co.uk](http://www.tierrakitchen.co.uk)





**LOCAL. SEASONAL. ORGANIC**

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[info@tierrakitchen.co.uk](mailto:info@tierrakitchen.co.uk)  
01297 445189  
1a Coombe St. Lyme Regis

**AWARD WINNING FOOD IN LYME REGIS**



# Summer Events in Lyme

It's all go in the town that never does nothing

## July

**18th** – Marine Theatre, 7pm. Pete Higgins and Lynsey Rowe in concert. Pop, country, jazz and blues from a dynamic duo. Tickets £6.50 in advance, £7.50 on the door. [www.marinetheatre.com](http://www.marinetheatre.com)

**19th-26th** – Lyme Regis Lifeboat Week. A week of fun, games, thrills, music and displays for all the family. Full details in the £1.50 programme available all over the town and at the RNLI shop at The Cobb. [www.facebook.com/LymeRegisLifeboatWeek](http://www.facebook.com/LymeRegisLifeboatWeek)

**20th-21st** – Marine Parade Shelters, 10am-5pm. Lyme Regis Arts Society exhibition and sale of affordable paintings, prints and cards. 20% of all sales donated to the RNLI.

**20th** – Marine Parade Shelters, 2.30pm. Songs Of Praise presented by the Lyme Regis Churches accompanied by the Lyme Regis Town Band. [www.facebook.com/LymeRegisLifeboatWeek](http://www.facebook.com/LymeRegisLifeboatWeek)

**20th** – The Seafront, 7pm. RAF Falcons Parachute Display Team landing on the sand bar at The Cobb. [www.facebook.com/LymeRegisLifeboatWeek](http://www.facebook.com/LymeRegisLifeboatWeek)

**22nd** – Marine Parade Shelters, 10am-4pm. Fossil Polishing. Take home your own piece of Jurassic magic by visiting the town museum's stand and polish a fossil of your own. Fossils start at pocket-money prices. [www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk](http://www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk)

**22nd** – Marine Parade, 8pm. Concert by the Lyme Regis Town Band. [www.lymeregistownband.co.uk](http://www.lymeregistownband.co.uk)

**23rd** – The Hub, Church Street, 10am-4pm. Beach Explorer Picnic & Play. Meet at The Hub to make a delicious healthy picnic which you will take in a bucket on a fabulous day-out beach adventure. A parents-free zone. Guided children will learn about nature on the shore, enjoy great games and maybe have a campfire. Parents pick them up from The Hub at the close of play. £25 per child. Contact Diane on 01297 445021 to book. [www.hublyme.co.uk](http://www.hublyme.co.uk)

**23rd** – Langmoor Gardens, 11am. Admiral Sir George Somers Day Parade. Starting at the gardens, procession down Broad Street, along the Marine Parade to The Cobb, learning about the life of the celebrated seafarer and Lyme mayor who founded the first settlement on Bermuda.

**23rd** – Uplyme Village Hall, 7.30pm. Xtreme Falconry's Bird of Prey Display.

**24th** – The Seafront, 6pm. The RAF Red Arrows Display. For many, the highlight of the summer as the acclaimed Red Arrows perform their thrill-making aerobatics and paint the sky red, white and blue all over Lyme Bay in support of Lifeboat Week. [www.facebook.com/LymeRegisLifeboatWeek](http://www.facebook.com/LymeRegisLifeboatWeek)

**25th-28th August** – Marine Theatre, 7pm Tues-Fri, 6pm Sat & Sun. The Story Giant. Exploring folklore, myths and fairytales from around the world, The Shanty Theatre Company takes family audiences along on a fabulous adventure meeting ghosts, talking skulls, monsters, dragons, thieves, tricksters and [of course] homing chickens as the Story Giant searches to find the last story on Earth. Huge fun for all aged 7+. Tickets £9 adults, £7 concessions (over-60 or under-16), £28 for 2 adults + 2 concessions. [www.marinetheatre.com](http://www.marinetheatre.com)

**26th** – Woodmead Halls, Hill Road, 11am-4pm. Unique Boutique arts and crafts market full of upcycled, hand-made and locally-designed beautiful things – including jewellery, textiles, ceramics, toys, clothes, bags, and art of the West Country. Plus a pop-up café with home-made sandwiches and cakes, tea and coffee. And an open bar and music. Admission free. [www.facebook.com/UniqueBoutiqueMarkets](http://www.facebook.com/UniqueBoutiqueMarkets).

**29th** – Marine Parade, 8pm. Lyme Regis Town Band in concert.

**30th** – The Hub, Church Street, 10am-4pm. Beach Explorer Picnic and Play. See July 23rd for details.

**30th** – The North Wall, The Cobb, 5-8pm. Junior Fishing Competition. Free to enter, bait and tackle supplied. [www.lymefishing.org.uk](http://www.lymefishing.org.uk)

**30th** – The Inn Plaice, The Pilot Boat Inn, Broad Street, 7.30pm. Pub Quiz held by the Lyme Bay Photographic Club. [www.lymebayphotographicclub.org](http://www.lymebayphotographicclub.org)

## August

**1st-3rd** – Rotunda Gallery, Lyme Regis Museum. Inspired By The Old Town Dump. Ronnie Creswell's solo exhibition of digital mixed media images inspired by beach-combed fragments of crockery and utensils from Lyme's old town dump, which recently fell off the cliffs onto the beach. [www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk](http://www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk)

**1st-4th** – Courtyard Gallery, The Town Mill, 10am-5pm. Out Of The Blue exhibition of paintings by Zee Jones and Pam Allsop. [www.townmillsartsguild.com](http://www.townmillsartsguild.com)

**1st-17th** – Malthouse Gallery, The Town Mill. Studio 19 presents The Outsiders exhibition of high class work by artists who have had little or no formal training but who are all inspired to passionately create.

**2nd-10th** – Lyme Regis Regatta and Carnival Week. More than 60 events held all over the town for the whole family, raising money for good local causes. See main feature for details. [www.lymeregiscarnival.co.uk](http://www.lymeregiscarnival.co.uk)

**5th-25th** – Courtyard Gallery, The Town Mill, 10.30am-4.30pm. Along The Seashore In Clay and Print exhibition of functional and decorative work by three potters, Belinda Brownlee, Alison Potter and Linda Bristow, with textured collograph prints by Cath Bloomfield. [www.townmillsartsguild.com](http://www.townmillsartsguild.com)

**5th** – Marine Parade, 8pm. The Lyme Regis Town Band in concert.

**6th** – The Hub, Church Street, 10am-4pm. Beach Explorer Picnic and Play. See July 23rd for details.

**6th-14th** – Rotunda Gallery, Lyme Regis Museum. Strange Scenes From The Borderland exhibition of Dave Wicken's work revealing the Jurassic Coast as seen from the space between drawing and photography. [www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk](http://www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk)

**7th** – Marine Parade Shelters, 8-9pm. The Lyme Regis Town Band in concert.

**11th** – Woodmead Halls, Hill Road, 7.30pm. Some Of Our Native Wildlife Wonders, an illustrated talk by David Cox on local mammals, birds and insects. [www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk](http://www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk)

**12th** – Marine Parade, 8pm. The Lyme Regis Town Band in concert.

**13th-14th** – Marine Theatre, 8pm. The Bo Diddlers, the Morris dance side who take the form into unexpected areas, blending folk and contemporary dance with physical comedy and live music. Something completely different and hilarious. Tickets: £12 adults, £9 concessions, £36 families. [www.marinetheatre.com](http://www.marinetheatre.com)

**19th** – Marine Parade, 8pm. The Lyme Regis Town Band in concert.

**20th** – Marine Parade Shelters, 10am-4pm. Fossil Polishing. See July 22nd listing for details. [www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk](http://www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk)

**22nd** – Upstairs Gallery, The Town Mill, 10am-12 and 2pm. Build A Brickosaur, creative workshop for children with artist Darrell Wakelam and inspired by the Lyme Bay ichthyosaur. Every child takes home a monster. Tickets £10. [www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk](http://www.lymeregismuseum.co.uk)

**23rd** – Woodmead Halls, Hill Road, 11am-4pm. Unique Boutique local crafts market. See July 26th listing for details. [www.facebook.com/UniqueBoutiqueMarkets](http://www.facebook.com/UniqueBoutiqueMarkets)

**23rd** – North Wall, The Cobb, 1-4pm. Junior Fishing Match. Free to enter, bait and tackle supplied. [www.lymefishing.org.uk](http://www.lymefishing.org.uk)

**23rd** – Live music from The Echoes at the Royal Standard, 9am til late.

**24th** – Marine Parade, 2.30pm. Lyme Regis Town Band in concert for the Lyme Regis Town Council.

**26th-15th Sept** – Courtyard Gallery, The Town Mill, 10am-5pm. Scenes From A Southern County exhibition of paintings of the West Country by Nicola Dennis, Eddie Burrows and Stephen Collins. [www.townmillsartsguild.com](http://www.townmillsartsguild.com)

**26th** – Marine Parade, 8pm. The Lyme Regis Town Band in concert.

**27th** – The Inn Plaice, Pilot Boat Inn, Broad Street, 7.30pm. Pub quiz with the Lyme Bay Photographic Club. [www.lymebayphotographicclub.org](http://www.lymebayphotographicclub.org)

**28th** – Uplyme Village Hall, 7.30pm. An evening with Craig Rudman head gardener at River Cottage.

**29th-31st** – Various locations around town. The Lyme Folk Weekend. The best weekend of music in Lyme of the year, featuring the cream of British folk. Not to be missed. See pages 21-28 for details. [www.lymefolk.com](http://www.lymefolk.com)

**31st** – The RNLI Station, 8am sign-in, 9am-5pm. The Black Bream Festival boat fishing competition. All day fishing. £10 entry and 100% pay-out with 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for the biggest bream. Charter and private boats welcome. Contact Darren at The Tackle Box 01297 443373. [www.lymefishing.org.uk](http://www.lymefishing.org.uk)

Please contact us with your September & October events to feature in our next issue.  
E-mail Geoff Baker at [geoffbaker12@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffbaker12@btinternet.com)



# The Beach House Cafe

Overlooking the beach and the Cobb Harbour

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**01297 445923**

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